

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: sigcom@juno.com (Stephen M Smith)
Subject: [257] "F" heard
Message-ID: <19960921.045730.17127.0.sigcom@juno.com>

While in my office this A.M. (1455UTC) copied the "F" beacon on my Radio Shack DX-390 portable on 7.040 RST 279 in Oxnard, CA, 60 mi. NW of Los Angeles. Yes, I have to work today, will miss contest.....SNIFF
:-(.....

Have fun in QRP Afield, I'll be listening when I can.

73.....Steve, WB6TNL QRP-L #621

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: sigcom@juno.com (Stephen M Smith)
Subject: [259] "F" heard
Message-ID: <19960921.051722.17127.2.sigcom@juno.com>

All,
While in my office this A.M. (1455UTC) copied the "F" beacon on my Radio Shack DX-390 portable on 7.040 RST 279 in Oxnard, CA, 60 mi. NW of Los Angeles. Yes, I have to work today, will miss contest.....SNIFF:-(.....

Have fun in QRP Afield, I'll be listening when I can.

73.....Steve, WB6TNL QRP-L #621

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: "Michael J. Hayes" <74672.2764@compuserve.com>
Subject: [255] Argo 556 display fix
Message-ID: <960921130915_74672.2764_BHW2-1@CompuServe.COM>

Jeff (WB5BWG) and the QRP L Group,

Jeff is gathering a list of fixes and mods for the Ten Tec Argo 556 and Scout 555.

Here is one to share with Jeff (my reply to you Jeff) and any one interested. Last week I posted a problem I had with my Argo frequency display alternating between the keyer speed and frequency display intermittently with the 20 meter

module installed. The problem was only with the 20 meter unit and after trying a new 20 meter module and working with different power supplies, grounds and antennas (possible RF problem?), Gary at Ten Tec came up with the following fix.

Place a 47K ohm resistor between the speed pin on plug 49 and ground on the low level driver board. The voltage between ground and the speed pin should be about 10 volts when the speed switch is on and nearly zero when in the neutral or RIT position. Gary suspected I was getting variances up to 600 mv causing the activation of the keyer circuit. Sure enough I measured 9.95 volts when the switch was on and readings of ~ 10, 30, 200, 400 mv and occasional spikes up to 4 volts! when the switch was off. After placing the 47k 1/2 watt 5% resistor in the circuit, the switch on voltage was 9.95 volts and the switch off voltage reading was about 3 mv.

A simple fix that works and cured the intermittent display problem. Please share with Argo and Scout users (usual disclaimers). Why it is only a problem with a few rigs and on 20 meters only with my rig, I don't know.

Jeff, I would be interested if you would share your collection of information with me when you get a chance.

73 Mike N1FGW

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: n4so@juno.com (CHARLES K BROWN)
Subject: [264] CMOS SUPER KEYS I I AND III
Message-ID: <19960921.130504.4439.3.n4so@juno.com>

The current issue of QST magazine of October 1996 has two Hints and Kinks related to QRP operation.

On page 71, with the CMOS Super Keyer II or III this will reduce 8 ohm speaker current.

1. Remove Q1 2N2222 and R11 100 ohm.
2. Place a jumper wire between the center pad (base lead) from the Q1 location and the R11 pad with the round circle.
3. Replace the 8 ohm speaker with a Radio Shack 273-0918 speaker element. The new speaker is said to draw 1.5 ma. Source: Robert W. Lewis, AA4PB, PO Box 522, Garrisonville, VA 22463-0522

The second hint shows a PNP keying circuit diagram for keying older rigs such as the Kenwood TS-530. Source: David A. Cornell, K9B0, 2 Oakwood Dr.,

Elsah, IL 62028
e-mail dcorn@prin.edu

=====

Ken Brown
QTH Near Mobile, AL
QRP-L #622
n4so@juno.com

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: KB0PJE /5 Jack Dougherty <jdougher@wt.net>
Subject: [256] Emtech Info Please
Message-ID: <32443CF9.809@wt.net>

Considering ordering an Emtech & would appreciate info:

1. Selection is based on cost (\$75) and power (5 watts) is that correct?
2. Does the unit drive a speaker? I want to put it in my car and run mobile, so need a relatively high audio level.
3. I lost the post on where to get the unit. Where are they?
4. Any building/modification info avail?
4. Any favorite enclosures used? I believe the kit is byob (bring your own box).

Thanks for any information.
KB0PJE /5
Jack /Houston

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: Al Moyle <moyle@essc.psu.edu>
Subject: [260] Fair-rite Cores
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960921153247.002e650c@pop3server.essc.psu.edu>

Does anybody out there know the Amidon equivalent of the Fair-rite 28-43002402 core? I was thinking about building the G3TXQ "Cub" multiband transceiver from Sprat No. 80 and it's full of bifilar transformers wound on these cores. Any info would be much appreciated.

72, Al Moyle N3KFL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: "Bruce C. Williams" <n9jcv@wwa.com>
Subject: [277] FOR SALE: HEATH HW-8
Message-ID: <Pine.BSD.3.92.960921213627.23781A-1000000@shoga.wwa.com>

Hello, I went to a hamfest this weekend and was fortunate enough to be able to purchase 2 HW-8s as a package deal. I will be keeping one for myself.

The HW-8 that is available for sale is \$80 shipped. I do not have a manual, but do have a schematic. For those who do not know, the Heath HW8 is a 4 band QRP transceiver. It is direct conversion. The bands are 80M, 40M, 20M and 15M. It puts out about 1.5-3 watts depending on band. It is a cw only transceiver. This rig is completely functional, as best as I could test it, 15M is kind of dead these days. The case is scratched up, mainly on top. There is also a hole on the top of the case about the size of a #10 screw. I am not sure why.

If interested please email me direct. There was a posting a while back that made me think about who I should sell it to. The posting was concerned that some people who have all day access to the internet, got more bargains than others. Here is what I will do. All offers I receive before midnight Sunday the 22nd will be put in the hat. Then I will pull one name and that will be the person I sell to. I will notify the person by midnight Monday. If for some reason the deal falls thru, I will draw another persons name and notify that person.

If you have questions please email me. 73 N9JCV
Bruce Williams
2105 Oakleaf Lane
Lake Villa, IL 60046

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: "Jack W. Rucker" <jackruc@mail.idt.net>
Subject: [263] FOR SWAP: SCHURR PADDLE
Message-ID: <3244420E.45B7@mail.idt.net>

Hi Schurr Paddle Owners:

I have a Schurr *Dual* Paddle in good condition, and would like to have

a Schurr *Single* Paddle in exchange. I have the model without base, and made my own Lexan base and paddle knobs, so the original knobs are still in new condition. I want to keep my Lexan base, and just swap the mechanism.

73,

Jack W4SON/2 9N1SON

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996

From: Richard Wilkerson <richqrp@pacbell.net>

Subject: [279] gel cell

Message-ID: <3244557D.C1B@pacbell.net>

Sorry, I know there have been a few "best ways" to charge a gel cell lately, but I did not need help at that time. Now I have a brand new 12v. 6Ah. bat. and need some help on charging rates I would like the battery to last as long as possible.

Thanks rich wd6fdd

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996

From: "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@Oakland.edu>

Subject: [252] Here's a clue... was: Learning Morse (was R E A L L Y Long)

Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960920235839.11257A-100000@vela.acs.oakland.edu>

On 20 Sep 1996, Marshall Emm wrote:

> SO YOU WANT TO LEARN MORSE CODE

> How to Avoid Frustration, Minimize the Pain And Gain Full HF Privileges

Y A W N . . . (Grad skool still sucks, I'm beat)

Did I miss something here? Are any of you goofballs still out there teaching 5 WPM, letter by letter?

Hey here's a free tip from ol' ZjL. NEXT time any of US (me included) gets the bright idea to "share" something with QRP-L, run through this handy algorithm:

ZjL's To Post or Not to Post

[AN IDEA!]
 |
 <Is it QRP related?> -> (POST IT!)
 N
 <Are you K5F0?> -> (You are God, POST IT!)
 N
 <Are you a member of the R0o2SC799?> -> (Post, God has smiled on you)
 N
 <Have you posted GOOD STUFF before, and this is a once-in-a-while,
 "Aw what the heck, they'll get over it?"> -> (Post, humbly)
 N
 <Can the post be saved by tacking on an ObQRP?> -> (Go post, and sin no more)
 N
 Ok, this post is sooooo lame, not even an ObQRP can save you from
 becoming net-cop, flame-bait, it must have SOMETHING to do with:
 Limericks
 Switching Power Supplies
 Q-Dope
 Dayton WX
 Mail Order Brides
 Your new Website
 Pro-Code
 No-Code
 Your (qrp newsletter) has not arrived
 A new PC virus
 An Urban Legend
 MAKE MONEY FAST!!!
 How do I unsubscribe
 etc. etc. etc.

Aw, what the hell, post it. We love you man. And you better be ready
 to buy us all a Bud Light at FDiM.

Bring on the Foxhunt!

73! =paul= wb8zjl, for a few weeks

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
 From: john andrews <jm165723@eee.org>
 Subject: [267] Mobile audio
 Message-ID: <32445CD4.1D64@eee.org>

Hi Gang:

While I've never tried it, there is an adaptor you feed from the

receiver audio to the cassette tape drive on car radios that friends swear by.

Output of the rig to a cassette tape after removing the screws and tape (there are different types of tapes and the ones with screws are easier to use), wind a few turns of #30 so it comes close to the tape heads in the cassette. Might want to put in a 10 Ohm resistor in series.

Sounds like it should work pretty well. Nice to have a tone control.

72, John-N5INZ

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: Rhynek@aol.com
Subject: [269] OHR Explorer II's
Message-ID: <960921185933_482999751@emout06.mail.aol.com>

Radio Devices still has a few Explorer II's in Stock. They have them for 20mtrs and 30mtrs. The last 40mtr one went out yesterday. We have the last of the WM-1 Watt meters.

Check Radio Devices Web Page at <http://www.ultranet.com/biz/raddev/>
or e-mail rhynek@ultranet.com for prices and further info.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: Russ1031@aol.com
Subject: [278] QRP Afield From the Towering Cascades
Message-ID: <960921231034_527338912@emout05.mail.aol.com>

Well, this was both a fulfilling and a sad day. It was my last opportunity this year for a backpack QRP contest in high country. On the other hand, it was an extraordinary experience, as days on mountain peaks generally are.

The mountains were dressed in brilliant red with the leaves of vine maple and huckleberry. A snow storm last week left all the high peaks coated with ice and snow. And a flock of birds hung out with me most of the day.

My Sierra tried its best, but contacts were pretty challenging today. I ended up with just 36 of them, in 22 states.

As I hiked down the mountain, snow was in the air. To be honest, my thoughts were not entirely on the joys of QRP, but were now a bit more focussed on the hot tub at home.

Thanks to the members of the New England QRP Club who once again put on a classy event.

Russ Carpenter, AA7QU, McKenzie River, Oregon

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
Subject: [261] QRP Afield Rules for today's party
Message-ID: <960921113709_482841359@emout03.mail.aol.com>

Gang,

After wasting my morning looking for this all over the internet, and in the QRP-L archives (I didn't go back far enough) I found I had saved the rules from Chet's posting back in July! Since I couldn't find them anywhere in NE QRP's newsletter (small hint for next year), I am reposting them for any others who might be looking for them last minute, like me. I am not official, but I think the announcement in QST says you may operate four of the eight hours is wrong. These rules are copied from Chet so are presumably correct. According to these rules, you may operate for six hours.

So here they are again:

(72, Preston WJ2V)

QRP AFIELD - 1996

QRP AFIELD - 1996 is sponsored by the QRP Club of New England and is designed to encourage QRP enthusiasts to field-test their radio equipment using temporary antennas and non-commercial power sources.

Date/Time

Saturday, September 21, 1996. 1600Z to 2400Z. You may operate a maximum of six hours during the contest period.

Exchange

QRP-NE Members: RST, State/Province/Country, QRP-NE#
Non-Members: RST, State/Province/Country, Power Output

Definitions

Permanent Location: Any location using commercial power and/or permanently installed antennas.

Field Location: Any location using non-commercial power and temporary antennas.

High Power QRP: 1 to 5 watts output.
Low Power QRP: Less than one watt output.

Scoring (CW only)

- 1 point for each contact from a permanent location using high power QRP.
- 2 points for each contact from a permanent location using low power QRP.
- 4 points for each contact from a field location using high power QRP.
- 8 points for each contact from a field location using low power QRP.

Multipliers

Each State/Province/Country worked counts for one multiplier. Multipliers may be counted only once regardless of band worked.

Awards and Results

A plaque will be awarded to the station with the highest point total. Certificates will be awarded to the ten stations with the highest point totals. Complete results will be printed in 72 magazine. To receive a copy of the contest results, please include a #10 SASE with your contest submission.

Address

Chester (Chet) Bowles, AA1EX
RFD 2, Box 335L
Sharon, NH 03458

QRP AFIELD - 1996

Entry Form

Name _____ Call _____

Address _____ QRP-NE# _____

Total Number of Contacts _____
Point/Contact (1) X _____
Subtotal = _____
Number of Multipliers Worked (2)X _____
FINAL SCORE = _____

1. Points per contact:

- 1 point for each contact from a permanent location using high power QRP.
- 2 points for each contact from a permanent location using low power QRP.
- 4 points for each contact from a field location using high power QRP.
- 8 points for each contact from a field location using low power QRP.

2. Multipliers: Each State/Province/Country worked counts as one multiplier. Multipliers may be counted only once regardless of band worked.

Transmitter/Xceiver _____ Power Output

Receiver _____ Power Source

Antenna

--
Location

Comments

Submit Logs and Dupe Sheets to: Chester (Chet) Bowles, AA1EX
 RFD 2, Box 335L, Sharon, NH 03458

|

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: "Michael J. Hayes" <74672.2764@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [265] QRP mobile
Message-ID: <960921193506_74672.2764_BHW6-1@CompuServe.COM>

I am looking for comments and experiences on running QRP mobile. I have an Argo 556 with 20 and 40 meter modules. I am looking for answers to some of the following questions:

1. Which band is best for contacts primarily during the commute hours on the east coast - 20 or 40 meters?
2. What simple, cheap antennas and mounts have been tried (magmounts, hatch mounts, hamsticks, hustlers, ect)?
3. Is SSB even worth trying or should I just focus on CW?

My daily commute is only about 15-20 minutes each way. Is QRP mobile during todays band conditions an exercise in futility? I bet others would be interested in the experiences shared by the mobile QRP operators. I am looking for these QRP experiences to decide if I should invest in an antenna and try it.

Mike N1FGW

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: Mike Boice <kd0fx@worldnet.att.net>
Subject: [280] radio shack, fluke & KC-2
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19960922040621.0067d9b4@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>

Item one: I was in Radio Shack recently looking at their DVMS, and had 2 of the employees tell me Fluke makes their DVMS, or at least their upper end models. Anyone else heard this?

Item two: Has anyone here tried the KC-2 unit from Wilderness Radio with an NW8020, specifically an NW30?

73,
mike KD0FX
Richland WA QRP-L #576

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: kb0rol@juno.com (Bradley L Mugleston)
Subject: [268] Stop already
Message-ID: <19960921.161625.7695.0.kb0rol@juno.com>

Gang,

I get this list on digest, I print it off and read it when I have time. I've just spent the last few days reading a weeks worth of posting and I can't believe it, you all sound like a bunch of old ladies.

The powers that be have done what they can to get rid of unauthorized messages on the list (BTW now if your not at your computer and you have a great idea or have a question you just can't email a message to the list but you have to sign the computer up where ever you are, send you message and unsubscribe, arn't you proud of yourselves).

I didn't see anyone offer to be the moderator or PAY for a moderator - moderation just doesn't happen with a push of a button - it takes a warm body to be there and read everything BEFORE it gets posted to the list - THIS IS A FREE SERVICE, let it die.

If you want a moderated list - GREAT, when you see something you don't think belongs, be a moderator and delete it before it gets out of hand - dont respond, dont bitch just delete it. If it really bothers you, send a direct message to the person and leave the list out of it.

I happen to like the variety of the list (BTW I made \$800 so far on the get rich quick deal). I've mentioned a few things on the list I've had problems with that probably didn't belong here but, do you know what, I've gotten some good help from the list about things that didn't relate to radio. I work with retirement plans and if someone on this list mentions that they are having a problem with their 401(k) I'll get in touch with them direct and see if I can help, I have a life outside of radio and for all the help I get here I'm willing to help where ever I can.

There I've said it, I hope I've put in all the correct punctuation, and didn't spell anything wrong - oh yea, I lied I never completely read the get rich quick post, I don't read a lot of the posts but I also don't want any of them to go away - someone else might need them.

72

de
Brad Mugleston - KB0ROL
Colorado QRP Club # 170, QRP-L #316, ARRL
QTH - Aurora, CO - DM79oq
KB0ROL@JUNO.COM
BMUG@GWL.COM

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: kb0rol@juno.com (Bradley L Mugleston)
Subject: [270] stop already
Message-ID: <19960921.165308.7695.1.kb0rol@juno.com>

Gang,

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Brad Mugleston - KB0ROL
Colorado QRP Club # 170, QRP-L #316, ARRL
QTH - Aurora, CO - DM79oq
KB0ROL@JUNO.COM
BMUG@GWL.COM

---- message -----

----- End forwarded message -----

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: wylde@nccn.net (Grover Cleveland WT6P)
Subject: [272] SW-30 - Completely Flummoxed
Message-ID: <v02130500ae6a2edcb9c5@[205.139.74.168]>

I'm usually pretty good at getting things to work properly, but now I'm throwing in the towel.

Is there some kind soul out there who has some experience with the Small Wonder radios who would look this one over if I were to mail it to him? I won't waste time on the list detailing the problems but will just say that I've spent more than enough time on this radio. I'll e-mail a description

of all the problems to whoever volunteers to help out with this. My intention was to give this radio to a young novice in town who is interested in qrp but I fear I've let him down.

cheers,

Grover

WT6P (for just a little while longer)

Grover's Tiny Little Signature File for Those With Emaciated Mail Readers
WT6P, archaeominiferroequinologist, nerd.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996

From: john andrews <jm165723@eee.org>

Subject: [276] Swapmeet observations...

Message-ID: <3244A4B3.7F1B@eee.org>

Interesting observations made at the DeVry(Southern California)ham swap-meet:

1. Sold on of my less used QRP rigs this morning. Small single bander. Most common question-"Will it do sideband?". Guess the jack marked "key" was too confusing.
2. Nice QRP+ for sale - \$300.00(One of those desperate for money deals) Rig looked nice and well cared for, he had already dropped the price from \$400.00. Guy walked away from the deal because he would'nt drop to \$275.00. Makes you wonder.
3. (My opinion) There has never been a better time in ham history to buy parts and homebrew. I've seen boxes marked "free" on common parts. Bought .1mfd mono caps for 1 cent each today. The sellers can't even give it away.

And so it goes....

72, John- N5INZ/6

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996

From: Craig LaBarge <74740.3166@CompuServe.COM>

Subject: [275] WB3GCK Afield in Delaware

Message-ID: <960922013743_74740.3166_EHB93-1@CompuServe.COM>

Gang:

I headed out this morning on my "DE-expedition" for QRP Afield 1996. My destination was White Clay Creek State Park in New Castle County, Delaware, just across the state line from Pennsylvania. I had scouted out this location a few weeks earlier, so immediately after arriving at 1600Z, I headed straight for a picnic table I moved under a great tree the last time here. The tree had several branches that cried out to have my inverted vee antenna hung on them.

Setting up the antenna was a bit of a chore this time, however. When I first hoisted the center of the antenna up, the element wires got wrapped around the RG-174 feeder and I had a real rat's nest of tangled wires on my hands. After another 10 minutes of untangling (and several expletives), I had the antenna installed. The rest of the equipment was unpacked and by 1630Z, I was on the air.

Forty meters seemed to be in pretty good shape. After a little over four hours, I ended up with 32 QSOs with 14 multipliers. The rig was my trusty little SW-40 (950mW). It was nice to be able to hand out some Delaware contacts for folks who needed them. As the DXers say, "MY QSL SURE."

The weather was perfect- clear skies with temperatures in the upper 70s. That, along with a beautiful location and decent band conditions, made for a super afternoon. I hope everyone else had as much fun!

73, Craig WB3GCK

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: Jim Dolson <dolsonj@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: [258] Will you children PLEASE STOP! (an off-subject post)
Message-ID: <1.5.4.32.19960921151513.0081742c@popd.ix.netcom.com>

When I first subscribed to this list a few months ago, about 20% of the topics were not QRP. About 20% of the topics still are not QRP. That hasn't changed, but something else has.

What has changed is that some people, instead of ignoring the stuff they don't think is appropriate, insist on demeaning the person who sent it (most recently, the post on learning CW) and doing so in a public post to the entire list. I'M SICK OF IT! I get enough petty bickering at work - I don't want it or need it here. This list has always been a place of refuge in the midst of a crazy world but it is becoming no better than the aggravating world that I try to flee from when I put my soldering iron in

hand or check out the scoop on the qrp list.

PLEASE! If you have a problem with a post, reply directly to the person making the post, not to the list. I (and I suspect most people) simply don't want to hear it anymore.

73's
Jim
WB8ZBD

p.s. if you have a problem with my post, please reply to
dolsonj@ix.netcom.com, not qrp-1@Lehigh.edu.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
Subject: [254] Re: Aluminum tubing source
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.94.960921081706.23423C-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

On 20 Sep 1996, Dan Keen wrote:

> The ham radio mailorder outfit called Texas Towers (800)-272-3467 called a
> Rcvd 8 pieces each six feet long of .058 wall tubing in sizes 1-1/4, 1-1/8,
> 1, 7/8, 3/4, 5/8, 1/2, 3/8. Priced from \$7.80 for largest to \$2.70 for
> smallest. Shipping/handling was 9 bucks. Six feet long is the longest UPS
> will deliver.

The 0.058 wall tubing is also made from a material better suited to
antenna use than the 0.050 material available at hardware outlets--hence
much better for antennas of the longer-element persuasion--and at prices
that seem comparable to the hardware store tubing--which is also not
usually available in 1/8" increments.

-73-

LB

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: "L. B. Cebik" <cebik@utkux.utcc.utk.edu>
Subject: [253] Re: Dipole Wire Diameter
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.94.960921064307.20709A-100000@utkux4.utcc.utk.edu>

Danny,

1. Cage: A true cage of 6 or more wires will have an effective diameter close to the diameter of the assembly. Since RF flows on wire surfaces, a wire the diameter of the cage will radiate only from the surface. Since the fields inside a cage do not contribute to radiation, the effective radiation is from the surfaces that are "exposed," simulating a wire of the cage diameter. The effectiveness of a cage as a. an antenna shortening means and b. a broadbanding means goes down with frequency. In generating an algorithm to estimate 2:1 SWR bandwidth of half-wavelength dipoles, I have done some extensive modeling between .01" dia wires (#30) and 2.5" wires, a 250:1 ratio. The bandwidth almost but not quite doubles in that range, while the antenna length at 3 MHz goes down by only 3 feet. Hence, something that can be tuned with an atu may be better than the mechanical complexity of a cage.

2. Helicals: helicals are subject to the same rules of geometry as any other antenna: below about 2/3 the length of a full size antenna, the efficiency falls off rapidly, despite their advantage over center loading. I have used CPVC and Schedule 200/300 (exact number is out in the shop) thinner walled PVC, and it is very flexible. I used it for arms in a 10 meter shrunken quad and stressed the arms in a curve to hold them in place. I have also used pieces up to 5' long as spacers for wire beams for 10 meters. Horizontally, anything longer than that will sag like spaghetti hot from the pot. And it will be heavier than at it seems at first sight. Hold a 10' length in one hand at the end (rather than at the middle, where the balance makes it seem lighter).

Now, vertical may be another matter. Although I have reservations, several postings have suggested good luck with proper guying of the heavier PVC to control the wiggle.

However, for 160, you may want to consider other antenna ideas, depending upon available space. A capacity hat vertical may be in order if the center support is sturdy. You can make a sloping cage of wires from just below the hat attached to the center pipe spreading outward and downward. With hats below 3 MHz, one simply tries for the highest support one can afford, get away with, and maintain, and adds hat enough to bring to resonance. Radials, of course. But the lower angle radiation will be helpful on dx--a horizontal antenna lower than 260' up will essentially radiate mostly straight up at 160. Some us a vertical for transmission efficiency, and a Beverage for reception (to cut local area noise).

For low band ideas, ON4UN's book is still the compendium of choice.

Hope these notes are a little useful.

LB, W4RNL

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: Clay N4A0X <wyn@worldnet.att.net>
Subject: [262] Re: Dipole Wire Diameter
Message-ID: <32441079.2F2@worldnet.att.net>

George Gingell wrote:

>
> Subject: Re: Dipole Wire Diameter
>
> Hi L.B.,
>
> Just thought I would compliment you on the very interesting response
> to the Dipole Wire Size vs Bandwidth discussion. I am curious, is there a
> formula for calculating those factors for a "CAGE Dipole"? I don't recall
> seeing design information on it.ary,(301)572-6789

George,

The ARRL Antenna Compendium Volume 2, page 106 contains "fat dipole" (basically a two wire cage) spacing for frequencies from 1.9 to 28.5 MHz. These puppies do get hard to manage if you use large wire gage and heavy spacers. Wire gage can be lighter than single wire dipoles because the current is divided among the wires. The article is by Robert C. Wilson. For a 50 ohm feed impedance the formulas he used were:

Length = $442.5/f$ (feet)
Width between two cond.= $11.25/f$ (feet)
Height above ground = $112.5/f$ (feet)

According to Robert, this is for a 13% band width at the 2:1 VSWR points.

72/73,
Clay N4A0X

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: dedinger@ix.netcom.com (.)
Subject: [274] Re: Hamstick Hat Construction
Message-ID: <199609220125.SAA03918@dfw-ix6.ix.netcom.com>

Guys,

During the discussion of the "Hamstick Capacitance Hat" my net server crashed. I did not see an article on the specific construction of the "hat". Could someone e-mail me the article or direct me to the archive.

de Dennis/nt01 CQC #202 QRP-L #482

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: Bob Edwards <rbe@atlanta.com>
Subject: [271] Re: Mobile audio
Message-ID: <3244A889.68C9@atlanta.com>

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----1ED57D2E186E
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

john andrews wrote:

>...there is an adaptor you feed from the
> receiver audio to the cassette tape drive on car radios that
> friends swear by.
>

They are also available (for stereo) from RS and most Hi-Fi audio dealers as a CD to cassette drive adapter. I have one on loan to a two meter (FM) friend, it works. It only plays into one side of a stereo system - so you can go with it or get/make a stereo to mono adapter.

-----1ED57D2E186E
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline; filename="FOOTER.TXT"

+-----+
| Bob, AE4CA, WAS-5W | "QRP", more from less....
+-----+
ARCII-8760, MIQRP-1410, COQRP-118, QRPL-606, ARS-145, NorCAL

-----1ED57D2E186E--

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: Mike Duke <gmduke@oscar.TECLink.Net>
Subject: [266] Re: QRP mobile
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960921151342.19083A-100000@oscar.teclink.net>

I ran a Yaesu FT7 with Hustlers mobile for about 10 years. Although 75 meter ssb wasn't so good during the summer, everything else worked well. Used ssb and cw on all bands at 10 watts out. Go for it, and have fun.
73, WB5ADC, Jackson, MS

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sat Sep 21 23:12:19 1996
From: duane <duane@flinet.com>
Subject: [273] Re: SW-30 - Completely Flummoxed
Message-ID: <32448438.242C@flinet.com>

Grover Cleveland WT6P wrote:

>
> I'm usually pretty good at getting things to work properly, but now I'm
> throwing in the towel.
>
> Is there some kind soul out there who has some experience with the Small
> Wonder radios who would look this one over if I were to mail it to him? I
> won't waste time on the list detailing the problems but will just say that
> I've spent more than enough time on this radio. I'll e-mail a description
> of all the problems to whoever volunteers to help out with this. My
> intention was to give this radio to a young novice in town who is
> interested in qrp but I fear I've let him down.

>
> cheers,

>
> Grover
> WT6P (for just a little while longer)

>
> Grover's Tiny Little Signature File for Those With Emaciated Mail Readers
> WT6P, archaeominiferroequinologist, nerd.

I would be glade to look at it for you... my name is duane mayo 1024 ne
21st st belle glade fl 33430 my home page is
<http://www.flinet.com/~duane> take a look there and you will see who i
am might add some trust in sending it to me.

duane AB4BE